

an injured soldier when his Bradley Fighting Vehicle was destroyed by a roadside bomb. This occurred near Ramadi in Iraq's Anbar province. He was 33 years old. He had a strong sense of duty, work ethic, and a caring heart. He was devoted to his family, his country, and gave the highest sacrifice to his soldiers. Sergeant First Class Sneed deserves our honor and remembrance.

CORPORAL JOSHUA J. WARE

Mr. President, I wish to honor one of this country's fallen warriors, a young man that comes from my home State of Oklahoma. Marine Cpl Joshua J. Ware was serving the cause of freedom in Iraq when he paid the ultimate price.

Corporal Ware was born in Lawton, OK. He played football and baseball and ran track at Roland High School. In 2002, 1 year before he graduated, he signed up for the Marine Corps and enlisted just 5 days after graduating from High School and just 2 days after his birthday.

Corporal Ware was serving in Iraq with F Company, 2nd, Battalion, 1st Marine Division, and bravely fought in the second battle of Fallujah. He was on his second tour of duty in Iraq on November 16, 2005, when he was killed as a result of enemy small arms fire in Ubaydi, Iraq. He was 20 years old and was the first Comanche or Kiowa to die in combat since 1968.

Many are left behind who are proud and grieved at his sacrifice. Corporal Ware is survived by his parents, three brothers, and one sister.

The loss of Corporal Ware is one that will continue to be felt as the years pass. He gave more than was required, in life and in the sacrifice of his death. He gave up his own well-being, putting himself in harm's way, and demonstrated courage that demands our recognition. I hope to express our gratefulness for his sacrifice with these simple words and honor him before the Senate today.

THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOSCOW HELSINKI GROUP

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, last Friday, May 12, marked the 30th anniversary of the oldest active Russian human rights organization, the Moscow Helsinki Group.

The creation of the Moscow Helsinki Group was announced on May 12, 1976, at a press conference called by Academician Andrei Sakharov, who later won the Nobel Peace Prize for his defense of human rights and his commitment to world peace. Formally named the "Public Group to Assist in the Implementation of the Helsinki Final Act in the USSR," its members sought to monitor the Soviet Government's implementation of the historic Helsinki Accords.

At the initiative of Professor Yuri Orlov, a physicist by profession and a veteran human rights activist, the group joined together 11 committed individuals to collect and publicize infor-

mation on Soviet violations of the human rights provisions enshrined in the Helsinki Accords. The group monitored fundamental rights and freedoms, including freedom of movement and freedom of religion, as well as the basic rights of minorities.

The group documented evidence of systemic human rights abuses and provided reports of Helsinki violations to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the embassies of Helsinki signatory countries in Moscow. Additionally, these reports were widely distributed to Western correspondents. All together, the Moscow Helsinki Group published 195 numbered reports, along with numerous other documents, some of them in cooperative initiatives with other human rights organizations. These reports played a critical role in documenting the Soviet Union's failure to adhere to many of its Helsinki commitments.

The example set by the Moscow Helsinki Group inspired human rights activists elsewhere in the USSR. Helsinki monitoring groups were founded in Ukraine, Lithuania, Georgia, and Armenia, and affiliated groups were also established to combat psychiatric abuse for political purposes and to defend religious liberty in Lithuania. As time went on, more brave individuals joined the Moscow Helsinki Group in its pursuit of truth and accountability.

However, regrettably, the Soviet Government had no intention of tolerating the "assistance" provided by the Moscow Helsinki Group in monitoring the Soviet Union's adherence to Helsinki commitments. The state-controlled Soviet press launched a campaign of slander against the group. By early 1977, the group's founders, Dr. Yuri Orlov and Alexander Ginzburg, a longtime activist who had earlier produced the celebrated "White Book" on the trial of writers Andrei Sinyavsky and Yuli Daniel, had been arrested on political charges. Cyberneticist Anatoly "Natan" Sharansky and retired geologist Malva Landa were arrested shortly thereafter. Orlov was sentenced to 7 years in a labor camp and 5 years in internal exile. Ginzburg received 8 years labor camp and 3 years internal exile. Sharansky was sentenced to a total of 13 years in labor camp and prison, and Landa received 2 years internal exile.

Other members followed this path into the "Gulag" or were forced to emigrate. By 1981, KGB pressure had left only three members of the Moscow Helsinki Group at liberty in the Soviet Union, and they were forced to announce the "suspension" of their work. In 1984, one of those three, Dr. Elena Bonner, joined her husband, Dr. Sakharov, in forced internal exile in the closed city of Gorky.

Tragically, in December 1986, just as the Soviet political system was showing the signs of the exhaustion that would eventually lead to its collapse, Moscow Helsinki Group member Anatoly Marchenko died during a hun-

ger strike at Chistopol Prison. Just over 2 months later, hundreds of known political and religious prisoners were freed from the Soviet prison system.

With the advent of Glasnost, the Moscow Helsinki Group was formally reestablished in July 1989 by a handful of Helsinki veterans, and several new members joined their cause. Today, the Moscow Helsinki Group continues to work to defend human rights in post-Soviet Russia. And while there have been dramatic changes in Russia since the collapse of the Soviet Union, the lure of authoritarianism still has a strong appeal for some in today's Russia.

Mr. President, on the occasion of its 30th anniversary, I congratulate the members and former members of the Moscow Helsinki Group, many of whom, sadly, are no longer with us, for their courage and fortitude in the struggle against tyranny. I wish the group continued success as they work to advance democracy, defend human rights, and promote a vigorous civil society.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN BRAMLEY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, at the end of this month, John Bramley will step down as provost of the University of Vermont. From a day-to-day standpoint, the provost of a university is more important than the president of a university. The provost is the chief of operations who embraces the president's vision and implements ideas into reality. By ensuring that academics, research, and student life are running smoothly, the provost creates an environment that enriches the lives of students, faculty, administrators, and the community.

As provost of the University of Vermont since 2002, John Bramley has not only excelled as provost, but also set a standard that will serve as a benchmark to measure other provosts around the country.

I have known John since he came to the University of Vermont from England in the early 1990s. I believe that John excelled as provost because of his leadership in earlier positions that he held at the university. John is first and foremost an animal science scholar who is known internationally for his groundbreaking research on bovine mastitis. He is also an excellent teacher who genuinely enjoys the interaction between and challenges from students—both undergraduate and graduate. That became evident when he was recognized with the Joseph Carrigan Teaching Award in 1998.

John easily made the transition to administrator. He directed the university's farm programs, cochaired the agricultural extension programs, chaired the Department of Animal Sciences and, perhaps most notably, was chair of the Faculty Senate—a position held by election among his faculty peers.

I jokingly think that his early demonstration of these administrative

skills likely led to his demise as being tapped interim provost and then eventually as provost in 2002. And we are so grateful that John was at his position, as this turned out to be a critical time in the history of the University of Vermont.

It is no secret that during the 1990s UVM suffered from several years of unstable and rocky leadership. Not surprisingly, such a rapid turnover at the helm of a major university led to many problems including budget shortfalls; low morale among faculty, staff and students; and, less than stellar relations with the local Burlington and statewide communities. The work of both interim president Ed Colodny and John guided the university to calmer waters during that difficult time, and helped to build a strong and valuable foundation for the incoming president.

Under President Fogel's administration, the university has been reinvigorated and its prestige restored. I am sure that President Fogel would agree when I say to all my colleagues that we owe much to John Bramley for bringing the university into this new, promising chapter in its history.

John is stepping down as provost, but I am glad that I do not have to end this speech with a farewell. John will be returning to what I think he enjoys most, his teaching and research. I know he will continue to be an important part of the University of Vermont community and I look forward to continuing to see him on campus.

IN RECOGNITION OF REPRESENTATIVE TINA FALLON

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President. I rise today to recognize Representative Evelyn K. "Tina" Fallon upon her retirement from Delaware's House of Representatives after more than 28 years of dedicated public service. Known to friends and colleagues alike as "Tina," she is a woman with a kind heart, diverse interests and great abilities. Tina embodies the best of Delaware.

Born in Dudley, NC, on September 16, 1917, Tina has experienced firsthand the many changes that Delaware has undergone over the years and this level of experience will be difficult, if not impossible, to replace.

A longtime resident of Seaford, DE, Tina holds a bachelor of arts degree from Meredith College, located in Raleigh, NC, and a master's degree in education from the University of Delaware. She married her husband, James D. Fallon, Jr., in 1938, and they had four children together. After James' passing in 1982, Tina continued to raise their sons, George, James, William and Howard.

Before winning her first campaign when she was 61 years old, an age when many public servants are ready to retire, Tina worked for more than 25 years as an educator teaching math and science at Seaford High School. This experience has allowed her to speak with authority about Delaware's

education system and the many issues that affect Delaware's young people.

Often recognized as the oldest member of the State legislature, Tina brought a wealth of knowledge to Delaware's House of Representatives along with energy and enthusiasm that belied her age. Her life experience gave her an understanding of faith and family values that transcended party slogans and struck an authentic chord in her constituents and everyone who had the pleasure of calling her their friend.

Representative Fallon quickly became known as one of Delaware's most approachable and hardestworking public officials. Her keen intellect and commonsense approach to problem-solving helped her serve her constituents and make Delaware a better place for us all.

Tina also served as a mentor for incoming members of Delaware's House of Representatives. Her positive attitude and boundless energy set a high standard for her colleagues to follow. A firm believer in acknowledging the hard work and accomplishments of her constituents, Tina was often seen visiting homes and businesses throughout the 39 district while delivering House tributes to those who deserved them.

During my time as Governor, I had the honor of naming Representative Fallon as the "Travel and Tourism Person of the Year" in 1998 for her outstanding work to promote and develop Delaware's tourism industry. Delaware's economic health and many small businesses are better off because of her efforts to promote the first State's historical and natural attractions. Also in 1998, she was honored by the National Republican Legislators Association as a "1998 Legislator of the Year." She was one of only 10 people across the Nation to receive this honor.

As a member of the influential Joint Finance Committee, Representative Fallon helped shape Delaware's multi-billion dollar annual operating budget. Her ability to work with members of both parties made her an invaluable participant in figuring out how best to fund the current and future needs of Delaware. Tina also chairs the House Tourism Committee and is a member of five other committees as well.

Following her retirement, Tina plans to spend time with her children and grandchildren. After such a distinguished career serving the people of Delaware, I am certain that many will agree with me when I say that her retirement is well deserved. I thank Tina for her friendship, applaud her service, and wish her and her family only the very best in all that lies ahead for them.

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

TEN-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE BUFFALO, WV TOYOTA PLANT

• Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a milestone in

my home State of West Virginia. Ten years ago, in 1996, a world-renowned automobile company, the Toyota Motor Corp., began producing engines and transmissions in my home State, marking the first major automobile manufacturing plant in West Virginia. In the following 10 years, Toyota Motor Manufacturing of West Virginia, TMMWV, has never stopped expanding. It now employs more than 1,100 people and has invested more than \$1 billion in our State.

But the story actually begins almost 10 years earlier with a series of meetings I had with Dr. Shoichiro Toyoda, the son of Toyota's founder and its visionary leader for much of the 1980s and 1990s. I met Dr. Toyoda's father, the company founder, during my time in Japan in the 1960s. He soon introduced me to his son, Shoichiro, who would go on to steer Toyota into the 21st century, beginning production of the Lexus line and the Prius hybrid, as well as turning Toyota into a truly global force in the automobile industry. So in the mid-1980s, very early in my Senate career, I began the long, slow process of trying to woo this great company and great family to invest in West Virginia as a key part of their bold plan for investment in the United States and in North America.

I recall walking through cornfields in Putnam County with the Toyota site selection committee—facing the hurdles of excavation, preparation of the site, the narrow valley in Buffalo, highway infrastructure, and the construction of a bridge to reach the site. By the time Toyota decided to make Buffalo its new home, I felt like a full-fledged member of that site selection team. The cornfield of those days is now a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility, with a spotless parking lot outside for the hundreds of West Virginia workers proud to arrive for work there every day.

Many in the company and outside thought this move was a mistake for Toyota. They thought that transportation of materials and people to and from Buffalo would be too difficult. They thought that West Virginians could not do the work.

But Dr. Toyoda saw what others did not—a strong, smart, and friendly workforce and a great place to do business. Although it took many years and a number of meetings with my friend Dr. Toyoda—meetings I now look back upon fondly—Toyota finally decided to place a production facility in West Virginia, and we held our first of many groundbreaking celebrations here in 1996.

Now, Toyota's plant in Buffalo, WV, has gained national and international renown. It is the single most productive engine and transmission facility in all of North America for 3 years running, according to the Harbour Report, which is the auto industry authority on manufacturing efficiency and productivity. Toyota has implemented more recommendations from its Buffalo workforce than from most of its